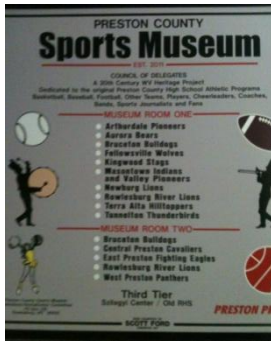
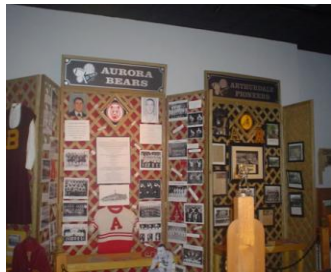


## Preston Sports History

Before the consolidation of schools in 1991, there were ten high schools in Preston County, each with its own sports program. Said schools were



Arthurdale, Aurora, Bruceton Mills, Fellowshipville, Kingwood, Masontown, Newburg, Rowlesburg, Terra Alta, and Tunnelton. There was always vigorous but friendly competition among the schools for the county, regional, and state titles. Those were the days of town pride, healthy rivalry, and true sportsmanship. In 2010, Preston County Sports Delegates, under the leadership of Mike Teets and Anna Nassif, organized a project to create a museum in the Szilagy Center dedicated to the



golden years of county sports. Former athletes donated sports memorabilia spanning decades of hometown teams.

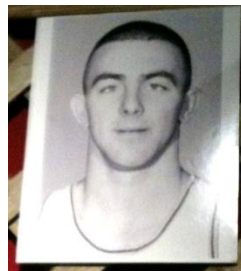
Museum Room Number 1 contains memorabilia from the original 10 schools while Museum Room Number 2 features the 3 additional schools of Central Preston, East Preston, and West Preston, along with

Bruceton and Rowlesburg, from 1977 to 1991, prior to the formation of Preston High School.

The role of sports in our lives has long been one of instilling in our youth the most fundamental virtues of patience, brotherhood, self discipline, fellowship, endurance, honor, bravery, loyalty, tolerance, fairness, and commitment.

School sports aren't simply about teams competing for the championship in football, basketball, or baseball. It also includes companions, such as cheer leaders, marching bands, majorettes, mascots, trophies, pep rallies, sports fans, goal posts, hoops, and sand bags.

These companion activities and symbols are represented in the museum, as well, such as a cheer leading uniform from the 1950's and a band uniform from the 1970's.



*Aurora's Marvin "Bucky" Bolyard*

## Smithsonian Institute Hometown Teams Exhibit

In the year 2013, application was made and approved to house the Smithsonian Institute Hometown Teams Exhibit in Rowlesburg, West Virginia. The exhibit is open in the Szilagy Center from May 11 - June 21, 2014.

"The West Virginia Humanities Council is sponsoring a state tour of the new Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit "Hometown Teams". West Virginia is a debut state for the exhibit



beginning February 1, 2014. The exhibit examines the role of sports in American culture - past and present... Sports are a big part of what we do and who we are. Our love of sports begins in our hometowns. Hometown sports can be more than just games, they can become cultural touchstones with the ability to unite us and shape our values," according to Robbie Davis, project director with the Smithsonian Institution. You can log on to [www.museumonmainstreet.org](http://www.museumonmainstreet.org) concerning additional information on Hometown Teams. The state tour is made possible through the Museum on Main Street (MOMS) program, which is an alliance of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the Federation of State Humanities Councils, state humanities councils across the country, and cultural organizations in small, rural communities. *from wvhumanitiesonline.com*

**Hometown Teams Co-Coordinator**  
Rich Street and Greg Messenger  
**Hometown Teams Sports Exhibit and Companion Exhibit will be open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 11 – June 21, 2014**  
**Saturdays - Noon Speakers and Movies.**  
**Museums, Studios, Exhibition Rooms will also be open**

## School Mascots

Aurora Bears  
Arthurdale Pioneers  
Bruceton Bulldogs  
Fellowsville Wolves  
Kingwood Stags  
Masontown Indians  
Valley Pioneers  
Newburg Lions  
Rowlesburg River Lions  
Terra Alta Hilltoppers  
Tunnelton Thunderbirds  
Central Preston Cavaliers  
East Preston Fighting Eagles  
West Preston Panthers



## Where is the Museum?

The Preston County Sports Museum is located on the

Rowlesburg's Harlan "Ed" Powell third tier of the **Szilagyi Center for the Arts** (former Rowlesburg High School building). The museum is open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00, May through October.

## Contact persons:

Dr. Mike Teets - 304-288-9590  
Greg Messenger - 304-789-6147  
George Nassif - 304-454-9786  
Lee Waybright - 304-698-1177  
Paul Riggs - 304-454-9533  
Anna Nassif - 304-454-9786 or 608-255-6624

## Rowlesburg, West Virginia

From Morgantown take Route 7 south, past Kingwood, and at bottom of hill, turn right onto Route 72 (go 10 miles). From I-68, take exit #23 at Bruceton, follow Rt. 26 south to Kingwood; in Kingwood take Rt. 7 south to Rt. 72; take 72 south toward Rowlesburg.



Burgess Lee Waybright

Museum signs were constructed courtesy of Scott Shaffer of Scott Ford in Kingwood. Reprinting copies of the "History of Preston County Buckwheat Basketball-1929-1977" by Mike Teets was made possible by Clear Mountain and WesBanco Banks and Shaffer Printing.

*Rowlesburg, West Virginia  
Home to  
"Rowlesburg on the Move",  
Town of Festivals and Flowers  
Spirit of the Mountains*



**Preston County Sports Museum**  
**Rowlesburg Revitalization Committee, Inc.**  
PO Box 135  
Rowlesburg, WV 26425

*brochure and photos by kwwo  
printing by Rowlesburg Printing*

# The Preston County Sports Museum



**CELEBRATING  
MORE THAN EIGHT DECADES  
OF HOMETOWN SPORTS  
IN  
PRESTON COUNTY SCHOOLS**



[www.rowlesburg.org](http://www.rowlesburg.org)  
[www.rowlesburg.info](http://www.rowlesburg.info)  
[www.rowlesburgguide.com](http://www.rowlesburgguide.com)